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part she may take is always welcomed by a round of applause. At the hotel she is at the head of the table, and is the general object of attention though herself modest and sensible. England is well represented by about twenty-five delegates—prominent among whom are Mr. Snape, Mr. Gillett and Miss Peckover. The United States has in all about ten delegates here, six of whom are from the American Peace Society. Mazzoleni and Moneta from Italy are here, and the former made one of the strongest speeches at the opening, in the course of which he said that the vocabulary of peace men does not contain the word foreigner. There are many new faces in the audience, all revealing hearts thoroughly alive to the great contention which has arisen against war.

The difference of tongue, as is always the case, has made some confusion in the opening of the proceedings, and one is inclined to wish that, in the interests of peace, all the earth were of one language and of one speech. But there is one admirable quality at least which difference of tongue cultivates, and that is patience. It is noticeable, however, that whenever any of the great ideas underlying and directing the peace movement are mentioned all difference of opinion on questions of detail disappear, and all tongues seem to blend in one, in sympathy and applause. There is great beauty in the friendliness and brotherliness with which the delegates from various lands meet and grasp each other's hand and, in broken speech it may be, talk of the principles which they are trying to bring to the recognition of the world.

In the hurry of getting off this little account of the opening of the Congress, no account can be made of the special points of business treated later in the day. These will be given in the next number of the *ADVOCATE*, together with an account of the proceedings during the remaining days.

B. F. T.

BERNE, SWITZERLAND, Aug. 22, 1892.

THE CANADIAN RETALIATION BILL.

In accordance with a special message from the President, what is known as the Canadian Retaliation Bill was passed by both houses without opposition, near the close of the recent Congress.

This Bill gives the President power to suspend by proclamation the right of free passage through St. Mary's Falls Canal to Canadian vessels. The St. Mary's Canal connects Lakes Superior and Huron, is entirely our own, and is not mentioned in the treaty with regard to the use of canals, made at Washington in 1871.

By this treaty our citizens were entitled to the use of the Welland Canal, which connects Lakes Erie and Ontario, on the same terms as the people of Canada, and in return the United States gave free use of the St. Claire Flats Canal.

The Canadian government have for about two years given a rebate on such goods as pass through the Welland Canal and thence to Montreal, but if they come to an American port no such rebate is made. Transshipment is necessary below the Welland on account of the St. Lawrence being deeper than the Welland.

If the transshipment is made on the American side and the goods are afterward sent to Montreal no rebate is made. The charges in all cases are the same at the canal and Canada insists that it is not a violation of the treaty to make the rebate. Our government thinks that it is not "on terms of equality" when our grain-shippers must pay in this way thousands of dollars more every year than the Canadian grain-shippers over the same canal.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

As we go to press we must record the death of one of our most honored Vice-Presidents. Born in Haverhill, Mass., December 17, 1807; died at Hampton Falls, N.H., September 7, 1892. Such is the simple statement of the beginning and end of the earthly life of John G. Whittier.

The work that filled so well the time between the beginning and the end remains to us. At the age of nearly eighty-five we found him still an interested friend and helper. We could have wished that he might have lived on thus for aye.

Action will be taken on behalf of the Society at the next meeting of the Board of Directors and record made in the October number of the *ADVOCATE*.

The Czar of Russia is said to have at his command four hundred thousand Cossacks. These Cossacks are cavalrymen mounted upon steeds trained like circus-horses. At the least whistling or hissing sound made by their riders they will kneel, or lie down, or get up. The purpose for which this body of horsemen is kept is for making raids into the country of enemies, to cut telegraph wires, blow up bridges, destroy railroad beds, and thus render mobilization impossible. Is the Czar any wickeder for having such a body of mounted soldiers ready to carry death and destruction in any direction than the Emperor of Germany for having at his command the enormous Krupp guns, or than Queen Victoria for keeping on her coasts great warships loaded down with implements of devastation and ruin? If one of these rulers is more Christian than the others, in what does it consist?

Four hundred members of the Freight Handlers' Assembly, 5572, Knights of Labor, met in Dexter Hall, Boston,